GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2741
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2007
MONITORING OF MOVEMENT OF CHEMICALS
Reddy Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several cases have been noticed in Maharashtra from where tonnes of Ketamine, an anesthetic which is being abused extensively has gone to parts of the worlds;

(b) whether there is no proper system to monitor the movement of chemicals;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to curb the drug producing units?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS & MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE)

(a)to (d): Ketamine Hydrochloride is a schedule H` drug under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Rules and is required to be sold only against the prescription of a Registered Medical Practioner.No specific instance of Ketamine an anesthetic drug being abused has come to the notice of this Ministry. However, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Department of Commerce, DGFT has informed that there has been many seizures of this item whiie attempting to smuggle it out of India. Also, International Narcotic Control Board in its report of 2006 had indicated about the abuse potential of the drug. To regulate exports of this item, a proposal to make it mandatory to obtain an NOC from the Narcotics Commissioner to export Ketamine is under consideration of Ministry of Commerce & Industry. The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (NDPS) (regulated by Ministry of Finance) exercises control over chemicals having misuse potential as controlled substances and a proposal to bring Ketamine under NDPS Act is under consideration of Ministry of Finance.